UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/743,112	01/16/2001	Hiroshi Kamakura	108100	5773

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/743,112	KAMAKURA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kristie Shingles	2141	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>21 November 2005</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-9, 11-15 and 17-24</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-9, 11-15 and 17-24</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Per Applicant's Request for Continued Examination:

Claims 1-3 and 11-14 have been amended.
Claims 10 and 16 have been cancelled. Claims 23 and 24 are new.
Claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-24 are pending.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/21/2005 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3 and 11-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   **Claims 1-8, 11-15 and 17-24** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Imai et al* (US 5,818,436) in view of *Wu et al* (US 5,987,256).

a.   **Regarding claim 1,** *Imai et al* teach a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is reproduced,

- at least two of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data reproducing apparatus respectively, each meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing meeting data that includes fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18; provision for meeting data playback of presentation data from the participants/presenters and the input supplied by the participants/presenters with a pointer to the address of the storage with the input data);

- at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a virtual machine that receives the supplied data from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, the virtual machine converting said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33; conversion, adjusting and text editing sections used for reading the input data and linking data in order to playback the corresponding portion of the meeting);

- a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus (col.19 lines 18-34);

- and a storage unit in which a generated image is stored and which is accessible by said another processing apparatus via said communication interface unit (col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 lines 58-67), and

- each of said at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus and said another meeting data reproducing apparatus including said conversion unit and said communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit and reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (col.19 line 66-col.20 line 18, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion,

without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a

platform-independent interface.

      b.   **Regarding claim 2,** *Imai et al* teach a meeting system in which supplied-data

convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing

apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated,

- at least two of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising meeting data generating apparatus respectively, each meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing meeting data that includes fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18; provision for meeting data playback of presentation data from the participants/presenters and the input supplied by the participants/presenters with a pointer to the address of the storage with the input data);

- at least one meeting data generating apparatus comprising: a virtual machine that receives the supplied data from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, the virtual machine converting said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be generated, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33; conversion, adjusting and text editing sections used for reading the input data and linking data in order to playback the corresponding portion of the meeting);

- a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data from another processing apparatus (col.19 lines 18-34); and

- a storage unit that stores generated meeting data, which is accessible by the other processing apparatus via said communication interface unit (col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 lines 58-67), and

- each of said at least one meeting data generating apparatus and said another meeting data generating apparatus including said conversion unit and said

communication interface unit reading a part of said meeting data from said storage unit and reproducing meeting data in a task-distributed fashion (col.19 line 66-col.20 line 18, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion, without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a platform-independent interface.

c.   **Regarding claim 3,** *Imai et al* teach a meeting system in which supplied-data convertible using a virtual machine is transmitted and received among a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line, and in which meeting data is generated and reproduced,

- at least one of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising a meeting data generating apparatus (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18),

- at least one of said plurality of processing apparatuses comprising a meeting data reproducing apparatus, each meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing meeting data that includes fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18; provision for meeting data playback of presentation data from the participants/presenters and the input supplied by the participants/presenters with a pointer to the address of the storage with the input data);

- said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a virtual machine that receives the supplied data from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, the virtual machine converting said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33; conversion, adjusting and text editing sections used for reading the input data and linking data in order to playback the corresponding portion of the meeting);

- a communication interface unit that receives said supplied-data, which is convertible by said conversion unit, from another processing apparatus (col.19 lines 18-34, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33);

- said meeting data generating apparatus comprising: a supplied-data generation unit that generates supplied-data, which is convertible by said conversion unit, in accordance with generating meeting data (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18); and

- a communication interface unit that transmits supplied-data including generated meeting data to said meeting data reproducing apparatus via said transmission line (col.19 lines 18-34, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33),

- at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising a storage unit that stores generated meeting

data, which is accessible by another processing apparatus via said communication
interface unit (col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 lines 58-67), and

- said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing
apparatus accessing said storage unit and generating and reproducing meeting
data (col.19 line 66-col.20 line 18, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is

converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data

being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being

identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied

data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-

col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a

virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the

files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA

virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the

virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and

subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the

target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have

been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the

virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion,

without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a

platform-independent interface.

      d.   **Regarding claim 11,** *Imai et al* teach an information storage medium readable by

a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while

a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive,

and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a

virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the

supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus

that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data said information comprising:

- information for implementing a communication interface unit which allows said
  storage unit to be shared by other processing apparatuses via the transmission line
  (col.19 lines 18-34, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33);

- information for reproducing meeting data by a meeting data reproducing
  apparatus of each of the plurality of processing apparatus, each of the meeting
  data information including fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the
  presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the
  supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by
  specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time
  (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10,
  col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18); and

- information for implementing said virtual machine to receive the supplied-data
  from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, read files in the
  common format, perform operations specified in the files and convert said
  supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced
  (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67,
  col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is

converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data

being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being

identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied

data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-

col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a

virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the

files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA

virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the

virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and

subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the

target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have

been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the

virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion,

without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a

platform-independent interface.

  e. **Regarding claim 12,** *Imai et al* teaches an information storage medium readable

by a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data

while a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and

receive, and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable

by a virtual machine, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the

supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus

that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data said information comprising:

- information for generating supplied-data in said common format (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33);

- information for transmitting said generated supplied-data to at least one of said processing apparatuses having storage unit accessible by the respective processing apparatuses via the transmission line (col.19 lines 18-34, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33);

- information for reproducing meeting data by a meeting data reproducing apparatus of each of the plurality of processing apparatus, each of the meeting data information including fixed presentation data and supplied-data, and the

presentation data including at least one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular presenter, a meeting participant and time (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18); and

■   information for implementing said virtual machine to receive the supplied-data from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, read files in the common format, perform operations specified in the files and convert said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion,

without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a

platform-independent interface.

   f.   **Regarding claim 13,** *Imai et al* teach an information storage medium readable by

a computer including a storage unit and that stores information for generating meeting data while

a plurality of processing apparatuses interconnected via a transmission line transmit and receive,

and perform distributed processing on, supplied data in a common format interpretable by a

virtual machine, said information comprising:

- reading information for accessing at least one of said processing apparatuses
  having storage unit which stores said meeting data and which is accessible by the
  respective processing apparatuses to read said meeting data stored in said storage
  unit, the meeting data being stored in units based on corresponding units of the
  supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific
  processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data (col.4
  lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines
  55-61, col.22 lines 8-18); and

- reproducing information for reproducing read image data, said reading
  information comprising: information for generating supplied-data indicating a
  reading request and for converting said supplied-data into said common format
  (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67,
  col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33); and

- information for transmitting said converted supplied-data to a processing
  apparatus having said storage unit to receive supplied-data including meeting data
  from said processing apparatus (col.19 line 66-col.20 line 18, col.20 line 58-
  col.21 line 10),

- said reproducing information comprising: information for reproducing meeting
  data by a meeting data reproducing apparatus of each of the plurality of
  processing apparatus, each of the meeting data information including fixed
  presentation data and supplied-data, and the presentation data including at least
  one pointer indicating an address of the supplied-data so that a portion of the
  meeting data may be reproduced by specifying at least one of a particular
  presenter, a meeting participant and time (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19
  line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18); and

- information for implementing said virtual machine to receive the supplied-data from another one of the plurality of processing apparatus, read files in the common format, perform operations specified in the files and convert said supplied-data into a data format which allows said meeting data to be reproduced (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33); and

- information for converting supplied-data, using said virtual machine in accordance with the received supplied-data, into a data format so as to reproduce the meeting data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33).

Although *Imai et al* teach a conversion unit, wherein a supplied data format is converted into a data format which allows the meeting data to be reproduced—the meeting data being stored in units based on the corresponding supplied data, each unit of meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied data (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33). *Imai et al* fail to explicitly teach a conversion unit including a virtual machine that reads files in a common format and performs operations specified in the files, with the virtual machine converting said supplied data. However, *Wu et al* disclose a JAVA virtual machine responsible for converting a first data set into a second data set, wherein the virtual machine receives and reads data according to a specified object language, and subsequently translates the data into another format suitable for the appropriate rendering by the target device (Abstract, col.2 lines 11-55, col.4 lines 49-65, col.17 lines 34-66). It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* with *Wu et al* because conversion using the virtual machine (JAVA virtual machine) allows for simpler implementation of data conversion, without additional overhead, using minimum resources since the JAVA virtual machine creates a platform-independent interface.

g.   **Claim 14** comprises limitations that are substantially similar to claims 1-3 and 11-13, and is therefore rejected under the same basis.

h.   **Regarding claim 4,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 3, *Imai et al* further teach said supplied-data comprising at least one of image data for displaying said meeting data and control data for controlling the displaying of said meeting data, said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising: a display unit that displays said meeting data in accordance with said image data; and a control unit that controls the displaying of said meeting data in accordance with said control data (col.4 line 58-col.5 line 2, col.13 lines 19-51, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 10).

i.   **Regarding claim 5,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 3, *Imai et al* further teach said processing apparatus comprising a server device, said supplied-data comprising a component object serving as a part of a program for generating said meeting data, and said meeting data generating apparatus generating said program for generating meeting data in accordance with received component object and generating said meeting data using said program (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 51-col.19 line 9, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18).

j.   **Regarding claim 6** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 3, *Imai et al* further teach said meeting data generating apparatus comprising data control unit that stores the supplied-data, converted by said conversion unit, in said storage unit in which particular presentation data is stored while said supplied-data is managed in units of supplied-data received from each of said processing apparatuses (col.5 lines 22-62, col.13 lines 19-43, col.14 lines 30-42, col.18 lines 25-67, col.19 line 55-col.20 line 18, col.26 lines 27-33), and reads

meeting data including at least a part of said supplied-data and said presentation data from said storage unit in accordance with a reproduction command from each of said processing apparatuses, and said communication interface unit comprising a transmitting unit that transmits the read meeting data to said meeting data reproducing apparatus (col.18 lines 25-46, col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 lines 58-67).

k.   **Regarding claim 7,** *Imai et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 6, said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said meeting data stored in said storage unit in units of data associated with said processing apparatus which supplies said supplied-data, in accordance with said reproduction command (col.18 lines 25-46, col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 lines 58-67).

l.   **Regarding claim 8,** *Imai et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 7, said meeting data generating apparatus comprising: an image-recording unit that records images of a meeting scene, and an image data unit that stores image data obtained as a result of the recording of images of the meeting scene in said storage unit as a part of said meeting data, in predetermined units of data, and said meeting data reproducing apparatus reproducing said meeting data stored in said storage unit, in predetermined units of data in accordance with said reproduction command (col.18 lines 25-46, col.21 lines 41-67).

m.   **Regarding claim 15,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 14, *Imai et al* further teach said supplied-data comprising at least one of meeting data, an object for generating meeting data, an object for controlling the generation of meeting data, an object for reproducing meeting data, and an object for controlling the reproduction of meeting

data (col.4 lines 46-57, col.18 line 25-col.19 line 9, col.19 lines 18-34, col.20 line 58-col.21 line 10, col.21 lines 55-61, col.22 lines 8-18).

n.   **Regarding claim 17,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 1, *Imai et al* further teach at least two processing apparatuses being associated with at least two respective meeting participants, and each of the at least two processing apparatuses identifying a corresponding one of the at least two respective meeting participants (col.18 lines 32-67).

o.   **Regarding claim 18,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claim 1, *Imai et al* further teach the generated image being generated based on the meeting data, and each of the at least one meeting data reproducing apparatus and the another meeting data reproducing apparatus simultaneously displaying different parts of the generated image on different sub-area of a display area (col.19 lines 2-41, col.21 lines 2-13, col.22 lines 1-21, col.23 lines 8-29).

p.   **Regarding claims 19-22,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claims 1-3 and 11, as applied above, *Wu et al* further teach the meeting system according to claims 1-3 and 11, wherein the virtual machine is JAVA virtual machine (Abstract, col.1 line 55-col.2 line 5, col.3 lines 3-12).

q.   **Regarding claims 23 and 24,** *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the meeting system according to claims `1 and 2, the supplied-data including time data (col.18 lines 25-56, col.20 lines 4-46, col.23 lines 30-47).

5.   **Claim 9** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Imai et al* (US 5,818,436) and *Wu et al* (US 5,987,256) in view of *Ichimura* (US 5,894,306).

Regarding claim 9, *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* teach the system according to claim 8, as applied above, yet fail to further teach at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising a projector. However, *Ichimura* teaches at least one of said meeting data generating apparatus and said meeting data reproducing apparatus comprising a projector (col.6 lines 40-49).

It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of *Imai et al* and *Wu et al* with *Ichimura* because a projector is a well-known apparatus used in meetings, conferences and presentations. It would have been obvious to implement the meeting systems using a projector as a source of data reproduction.

Conclusion

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: *Kitahara et al* (US 5,995,096), *Lerner et al* (US 6,192,395), *Bieselin et al* (US 5,668,863), *Arons et al* (US 6,529,920), *Chiu et al* (US 5,986,655).

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristie Shingles whose telephone number is 571-272-3888. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Kristie Shingles
Examiner
Art Unit 2141

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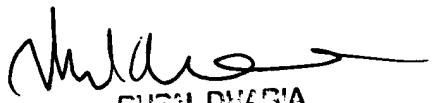
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